Dr. Lloyd V. Berkner
President
Associated Universities, Incorporated
Room 6920
350 Fifth Avenue
New York 1, New York

Dear Lloyd:

You will recall in January 1953, we constituted a Scientific Advisory Panel on Unidentified Flying Objects with Drs. H. P. Robertson as Chairman, Samuel Goudsmit, Luis W. Alvarez, Thorton Page, and yourself as members. After its deliberation, the Panel reached two conclusions and made two recommendations which were included as Tab A of the report. Very recently, the Air Force has requested that the conclusions of this report be declassified so that they may be used in the press. A copy of the report is enclosed herewith for your information.

I have discussed this matter with Dr. Robertson and Dr. Goudsmit who agree that the conclusion contained in paragraph 2 and the recommendation contained in paragraph 4a can be declassified. But, they, as well as this Agency, will not agree to a declassification of the conclusion in paragraph 3 or the recommendation in paragraph 4b. It is our feeling that the association of the Panel with this Agency should not be disclosed; that paragraph 1 could be rewritten to eliminate this connection; and that the final six lines of paragraph 4 can stand as written.

I have queried the Air Force as to whether the names of the Panel members would be used. They have replied that names would be used only within official circles and would not be given to the press. But as such information has a tendency at times to filter out, it should be recognized that, if approval is given for use of the names, they may well become common knowledge.



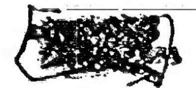
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[redacted]

It would be very much appreciated if you could let me know as soon as possible what your reaction is to the Air Force declassification proposal; whether you agree with Dr. Robertson, Dr. Goudsmit and myself on limiting any declassification; and whether you would approve or disapprove the use of your name, granted that Agency connection with the Panel is withheld.

Very best regards.

Sincerely,

P G Strong

Philip G. Strong
Deputy Assistant Director

Enclosure
UFO Report (Secret)

